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Chairman
4th District, Oklahoma

House Meets at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 3908—FY 2000 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act

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H.R. 3908—FY 2000 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 3908 today until its completion. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule that provides one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. It also waives House rules prohibiting unauthorized appropriations, legislative measures in an appropriations bill, and non-emergency designated amendments offered to an appropriations bill with an emergency designation. The rule makes in order, prior to the consideration of any other amendment, the amendments printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report which may be offered only in the order printed in the report. All amendments printed in Part B of the committee report may be offered only at the appropriate point in the reading of the bill. In addition, the rule provides that all of the amendments printed in the report may only be offered by a Member designated in the report and shall be considered as read and debatable for the time specified, not subject to amendment and not subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or the Committee of the whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments in the committee report and allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes, reduce the voting time to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 3908 provides \$8.6 billion in overall funding to support operations in Kosovo, provide counternarcotics assistance to Columbia, and provide natural disaster assistance. This amount is \$3.8 billion more than the president's request.

Specifically, the measure provides \$5 billion, \$2.2 billion more than the president's request, to support current Kosovo peacekeeping operations and other defense accounts. Of note, the bill appropriates:

- * \$2.1 billion for Personnel, Operation & Maintenance, and health accounts to cover the costs of stationing troops in the Kosovo region, equal to the president's request;
- * \$116 million to repair DOD facilities that have been damaged by natural disasters, \$88.5 million more than the president's request;
- * \$858 million for the military health care program to supplement the program's current lack of funding (the president did not request additional funds);
- * \$1.6 billion to cover the unexpected rising cost of fuel prices for DOD (the president did not request any funds for this function); and
- * \$1.1 billion in emergency supplemental funding (\$962 million specifically to support Plan Colombia) to reduce the supply of narcotics to the U.S. from the Andean region, aid Colombian local and national governing ability, and support human rights.

The measure appropriates \$2.2 billion to provide disaster assistance to families and businesses affected by Hurricanes Floyd, Dennis, and Irene, as well as other natural disasters. Finally, the bill provides \$175 million in supplemental funding for a number of programs and rescinds approximately \$426.6 million from various agencies.

Views: The Republican leadership supports passage of the bill. The Clinton Administration supports the legislation generally but has concerns with the committee bill and seeks additional funding in a number of areas which the committee did not have time to consider prior to floor consideration.

Amendments: At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 3908. The rule makes in order the following Part A and B amendments debatable in the order listed and times specified:

—Part A—

Mr. Sanford may offer an amendment (#8), debatable for 10 minutes, to cut a total of \$1.6 billion from various programs in the bill and strike all references to emergency designations, therefore making all spending subject to caps and recording it as on-budget spending. It also requires sequestration (across-the-board-cut) of other funds in order to pay for the bill with the exception of the Department of Defense and Title III (disaster relief) appropriations. *Staff Contact: Scott English, x5-3176*

Mr. Toomey may offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, to appropriate \$4 billion from the on-budget surplus (*i.e.*, not including Social Security funds) into an account held by the Treasury Department's Bureau of Public Debt for debt reduction. *Staff Contact: Gary Blank, x5-6411*

—Part B—

Mr. Ramstad may offer an amendment (#6), debatable for 20 minutes, to strike all of Title I, "Counternarcotics," from the bill, reducing the overall cost of H.R. 3908 by \$1.7 billion. *Staff Contact: Dave Fisher x5-2871*

Mr. Hutchinson may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to appropriate \$15 million to the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program for policing initiatives to combat methamphetamine production and trafficking. *Contact: x5-4301*

Mr. Obey may offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, that cuts \$522 million from the \$1.7 billion Counternarcotics (Title I) section of the bill. Specifically, the amendment cuts \$51 million from the \$186 million provided for Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities (Defense) and \$501 million from the \$1.1 billion provided for the Department of State's Assistance Plan for Andean and Regional Counternarcotics Activities. *Contact: x5-3481*

Mr. Sawyer may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to earmark at least \$50 million for displaced people in Colombia. The bill sets aside \$24.5 million for this purpose; the amendment adds an additional \$25.5 million. *Staff Contact: Holly Feiock, x5-5231*

Messrs. Gilman, Goss, Delahunt and Farr may offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to prohibit the release of military assistance funds to the Government of Colombia until the president submits a certification to Congress that: (1) the Government of Colombia has agreed to implement a strategy to eliminate Colombia's total coca and opium production by 2005 through a mix of programs including manual eradication, aerial spraying of herbicides and the destruction of illicit narcotics labs within Colombia; (2) the head of the Colombia Armed Forces is exercising authority equivalent to that of the head of the Colombian National Police to dismiss personnel for human rights violations; (3) the Colombian Armed Forces are cooperating with civilian authorities in investigating human rights violations; and (4) the Colombian Armed Forces are developing and deploying in their field units a judge advocate general corps to investigate Colombian Armed Forces Personnel for gross human rights violations. The president may waive the limitation in paragraph (1) if he determines that the waiver is required by extraordinary circumstances.

The amendment further provides that of the funds provided for military assistance to Colombia under the bill, certain earmarked amounts shall be used for training of a judge advocate general corps, to assist the U.S. Embassy's capabilities to monitor the use of assistance, and investigate reports of human right violations and activities of individuals associated with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the National Liberation Army (ELN), or the United Colombian Self Defense organization (AUC). The amendment also limits the use of any appropriated funds to the U.S. Department of State to issue visas to any person alleged to be providing direct or indirect support to any groups facilitating or promoting illegal activities. The Secretary of State may exempt any individual if entry is required for medical reasons, to permit prosecution of the person, or if the person has cooperated fully in the investigation of crimes committed by individuals associated with these revolutionary groups. *Contact: 5-3776*

Mrs. Fowler and Mr. Hansen may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to strike certain language in the section which appropriates \$40 million to Vieques, Puerto Rico which provides funding for a referendum among the residents regarding further use of the island as a weapons range for the U.S. military. The authors argue that national security requirements for vital military operations should not be created by public referenda.

The bill contains language (Title II, Section 2) implementing the president's directive for the use of the island of Vieques as a live-fire training range by the Department of the Navy. The island is currently closed

to use by the Navy and Marine Corps due to occupation by protesters. The president's plan calls for a portion of the \$40 million to be used for a binding referendum allowing the people of Vieques to determine whether live-fire training will resume.

The Fowler-Hansen amendment requires that before the \$40 million is released to Puerto Rico for economic development and other assistance the president must certify to Congress that the following conditions have been met: (1) trespassers have been removed from the range; (2) that the integrity and accessibility of the range is uninterrupted; (3) that the Attorney General has been directed to strictly enforce trespassing laws on the range in the future; and (4) that live-fire training operations be resumed. The amendment provides that an unlimited portion of the \$40 million appropriated under the bill may be used immediately upon enactment for a health study of the island of Vieques. **Staff Contact: Bill Klein x5-2501**

Messrs. Lewis, Spence, Murtha, and Skelton may offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, to add \$4 billion in emergency funds for FY 2000 to the Department of Defense. The amendment increases certain accounts that have been identified by the military service chiefs as unfunded military requirements, programs resulting from lessons learned in the analysis of the Kosovo operation, and chronic shortfalls in areas critical to military readiness such as depot maintenance, recruitment, aircraft safety, and equipment accounts. Specifically, the amendment provides (1) \$231 million for military quality of life programs; (2) \$600 million for shortfalls in military recruiting, advertising, and retention programs; (3) \$750 million for improvements to the military health care system; (4) \$1.2 billion for shortfalls in the military equipment maintenance accounts; and (5) \$1.2 billion for enhancements to support deployed military forces. Supporters of the amendment argue that it alleviates critical shortfalls in personnel benefits, military healthcare, recruitment and retention, and equipment readiness accounts. **Staff Contact: Kevin Roper (Lewis), x5-2847**

Mr. Largent may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to provide \$750,000 in previously appropriated funds from the salaries and expenses portion of the Justice Department's General Administration account to fund the Commission on Online Child Protection. **Contact: x5-2211**

Mr. Weldon and Mr. Smith (MI) may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to provide \$10 million to fund the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program. In addition, the measure provides \$80 million for a Fire Competitive Grant Program to be matched by local governments on a fifty-fifty basis. Finally, it allows CDBG funds to be freed up for local fire service use. **Contact: x5-2011**

Messrs. Kasich, Condit, Shays, Frank, and Bachus may offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, to withhold 50 percent of the bill's funding for operations in Kosovo (\$2.1 billion) until the president certifies that the European Commission, European Union member nations, and European NATO members are fulfilling their financial and personnel commitments toward this effort. Specifically, the president must certify that the aforementioned European allies have (1) obligated or contracted for at least 33 percent of their financial commitment for reconstruction in Kosovo; (2) obligated or contracted for at least 75 percent of their financial commitment for humanitarian assistance in Kosovo; (3) provided at least 75 percent of their financial commitment for the Kosovo Consolidated Budget; and (4) provided at least 75 percent of their police force commitment for the United Nations international police force for Kosovo. If the president fails to certify that these conditions have been met by June 1, 2000, the funding withheld will be made available only to conduct a safe, orderly, and phased withdrawal of U.S. military personnel from Kosovo. **Staff Contacts: Mike Lofgren (Kasich), x5-5355; Len Wolfson (Shays), x5-5541**

Mr. Schaffer may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, directing the Comptroller General of the General Accounting Office to conduct a comprehensive fraud audit of the Department of Education and submit a report to Congress. *Contact: x5-4676*

Mr. Hoekstra may offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to transfer unobligated funds in the National Services Trust account to direct the Inspector General to conduct a review and audit of the State Commissions on National and Community Service. *Contact: x5-4401*

At press time the *Legislative Digest* was also aware of the following amendments:

Mr. Blagojevich may offer an amendment to appropriate \$500 million in emergency funds for Youth Activities under the Workforce Investment Act. *Staff Contact: Gregory Adams: x5-4061*

Mr. Campbell may offer an amendment (#3) to cut all military and police assistance to Colombia in Title I of the bill. *Staff Contact: Joel Starr x5-2631*

Mr. Campbell may offer an amendment (#4) to cut all military and police assistance to any foreign country in Title I of the bill. Funding for human rights, judicial reform, and economic development remain. *Staff Contact: Joel Starr x5-2631*

Mr. Coburn may offer an amendment to require the Defense Department to establish a plan to meet all federal financial management requirements by FY 2002, one year prior to the date that the Department is currently expected to achieve compliance. The Defense Department must assign the same level of priority to achieving financial compliance as was assigned to Y2K compliance and submit its plan to Congress. *Staff Contact: Neil Bradley x5-2701*

Mr. Coburn may offer an amendment to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to certify that the release of funds made available by the bill will not cause the on-budget surplus for FY 2000 to fall below the surplus credited to the Medicare Part A Trust Fund. No funds will be released until this certification is made. *Staff Contact: Neil Bradley x5-2701*

Mr. Delahunt may offer an amendment to authorize funds appropriated for countering drug activities in Colombia to be used to professionalize the Colombian military, on the condition that there is first a peace agreement between the Government of Colombia and the insurgent forces in Colombia to end illegal drug activities. *Contact: x5-3111*

Mr. Farr may offer an amendment to earmark funds for alternative development programs provided for in the bill for the United Nations Drug Control Program now being carried out in Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia. The amendment also requires that the U.S. Agency administer the earmarked funds for International Development and makes them subject to congressional notification and regular progress reports. *Staff Contact: x5-2861*

Mr. Goodling may offer an amendment to direct the Agriculture Secretary to use \$6 million of Commodity Credit Corporation funds to indemnify the growers and nurseries affected with the plum pox virus in Adams County, Pennsylvania. *Contact: x5-5836*

Mr. Hinchey may offer an amendment to direct the Agriculture Secretary to use \$150 million of Commodity Credit Corporation funds for growers of specialty crops who suffered economic losses as a result of natural disasters last year. *Staff Contact: Dianne Miller x5-6335*

Mr. Isakson may offer an amendment to appropriate \$450,000 to the Web-Based Education Commission established under the 1998 Higher Education Amendments of 1998 (P.L. 105-244). *Contact: x5-4501*

Ms. Kaptur may offer an amendment to annually require the Energy Department to acquire and store 300 million gallons of ethanol and 100 million gallons of biodiesel by selling stocks of the Strategic Oil Reserve. *Contact: x5-4146*

Mr. Kaptur may offer an amendment to direct the Agriculture Secretary to use \$130 million of Commodity Credit Corporation funds for grants and loans for equity capital to establish farmer-owned cooperatives. No single loan may exceed \$10 million. *Contact: x5-4146*

Mr. McIntosh may offer an amendment to eliminate the following offsets in the bill: \$100 million for the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS) and \$6 million for the Fund for Rural America (FRA). *Staff Contact: Christina Rella, x5-3021*

Mr. Paul may offer an amendment (#5) to cut funds for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) funding by \$293 million. In addition, it eliminates Department of Defense (DOD) Colombian Army funding in the amount of \$1.1 billion and \$186 million for Bilateral Economic Assistance to gain control of drug regions. It also prohibits the use of military construction funds for construction outside of the U.S. and its territories. Finally, the amendment prohibits the use of appropriated funds for operations in Kosovo and East Timor from being used for any functions other than bringing troops currently stationed in those areas back to the United States. *Staff Contact: Joe Becker, x5-2831*

Ms. Pelosi may offer an amendment to appropriate \$1.3 billion in additional funding over four years for state and local substance abuse prevention and treatment services through the Substance Abuse Block Grant program. *Contact: x5-4965*

Ms. Pelosi may offer an amendment to appropriate \$600 million in additional funding over three years for state and local substance abuse prevention and treatment services through the Substance Abuse Block Grant program. *Contact: x5-4965*

Mr. Ramstad may offer an amendment (#7) to appropriate \$700 million in additional funding for the Substance Abuse Block Grant, with one-third of the funding available in FY 2000 and two-thirds available for FY 2001. *Staff Contact: Megan Ivory x5-2871*

Mr. Shays may offer several amendments to appropriate \$21 million to the Agriculture Secretary to provide aid to victims of the Long Island Sound lobster fishery disaster. The funds will be appropriated as follows: \$2 million to the Labor Secretary for dislocated worker assistance and \$9.5 million each to the states of New York and Connecticut to assist individuals and communities for their losses. The second amendment offsets this increase by reducing the funding allocated to the Defense Department to compensate for increases in the price of petroleum; the first amendment does not contain this offset. *Staff Contact: Paul Pimentel x5-5541*

Mr. Taylor (MS) may offer an amendment (#9) to limit the maximum number of U.S. military personnel deployed to Colombia at any given time to 300. The number of troops may exceed this level only in circumstances that require the rescue or recovery of U.S. military or government personnel and for no longer than 30 consecutive days. *Staff Contact: Stephen Peranich x5-5772*

Ms. Waters may offer an amendment (#10) to authorize such sums as necessary for the World Bank's Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Trust Fund for FYs 2000-2004. In addition, it appropriates \$210 million for the trust fund. The intent of the amendment is to provide funding for debt relief for Mozambique and other heavily indebted poor countries. *Staff Contact: Kathleen Sengstock x5-2201*

Mr. Wu may offer an amendment (#11) to appropriate \$14.2 million to aid in recover of the disaster in the West Coast groundfish fisheries. Specifically, the amendment allocates; (1) \$7.2 million to the NOAA for operations, research, and facilities; (2) \$3.5 million to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a vessel buyback program; and (3) \$3.5 million to the Commerce Secretary to provide assistance to those affected by the disaster. *Contact: x5-0855*

Mr. Wynn may offer an amendment to increase the funding for drug court grants from \$40 million to \$50 million and offset this increase by reducing the amount for Colombian military aid by \$10 million. *Contact: x5-8699*

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXIX, #8, March 24, 2000.

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